THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : (a) to (c) As per records of the Ministry, 147 proposals for setting up/upgradation/modernization of food processing industries were received from the North Eastern Region during the last 3 years for assistance from Ministry of Food Processing Industries. Only, proposals complete in all respects were considered for assistance. A statement indicating the state-wise break up of complete and viable project proposals provided financial assistance for setting up of food processing industries including infrastructural facilities and food parks in the North Eastern Region including Sikkim in the last 3 years is given below :

Sl. No.	State	No. of projects assisted 1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001
1.	Assam	6	1	1
2.	Nagaland	1	1	—
3.	Manipur	3	3	15
4.	Meghalaya	—	1	—
5.	Tripura	—	—	2
6.	Mizoram	—	—	—
7.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—

Junk Arjuna Award Statuette

*278. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government s attention has been drawn to the news report published in the Hindustan Times, New Delhi dated the 23rd August 2001, under the caption, "Mountaineer sparks another fire, claims his Arjuna was Junk";

(b) if so, the facts of the matter;

(c) the name of the metal of which the Arjuna Award statuette is made of; and

(d) by when Col. (Retd.) Balwant Singh Sandhu, an awardee for the year 1983, is likely to be given genuine Arjuna Award statuette ?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SUSHREE UMA BHARTI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news report refers to the poor quality of the statuette of the Arjuna Award given to Col. B.S. Sandhu in 1984. However, in the recent past Government has not received any complaints about the quality of statuette from any other quarter.

(c) According to the provision of the Scheme for Arjuna Award, the statuette is to be made of Bronze.

(d) News report also indicates that the statuette of Arjuna Award was taken by Col. Sandhu after a year or so. However, the Government will consider a request for replacement of the statuette in case the same is received from Col. Sandhu along with the "deteriorated" statuette.

Madarsa Board in Karnataka

*279. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any request from Karnataka Government for providing financial assistance to enable them to constitute a Madarsa Board, to equip the Madarsas to teach conventional subjects and bring the students of these Madarsas to the mainstream; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Sports Infrastructure

*280. SHRI P. N. SIVA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for lack of international level sports persons in the country :